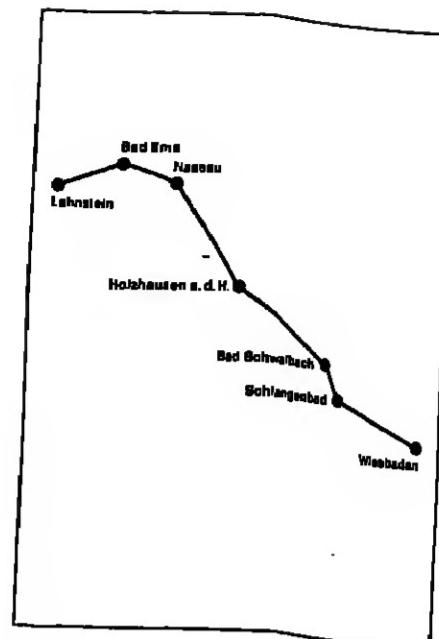


Routes to tour in Germany

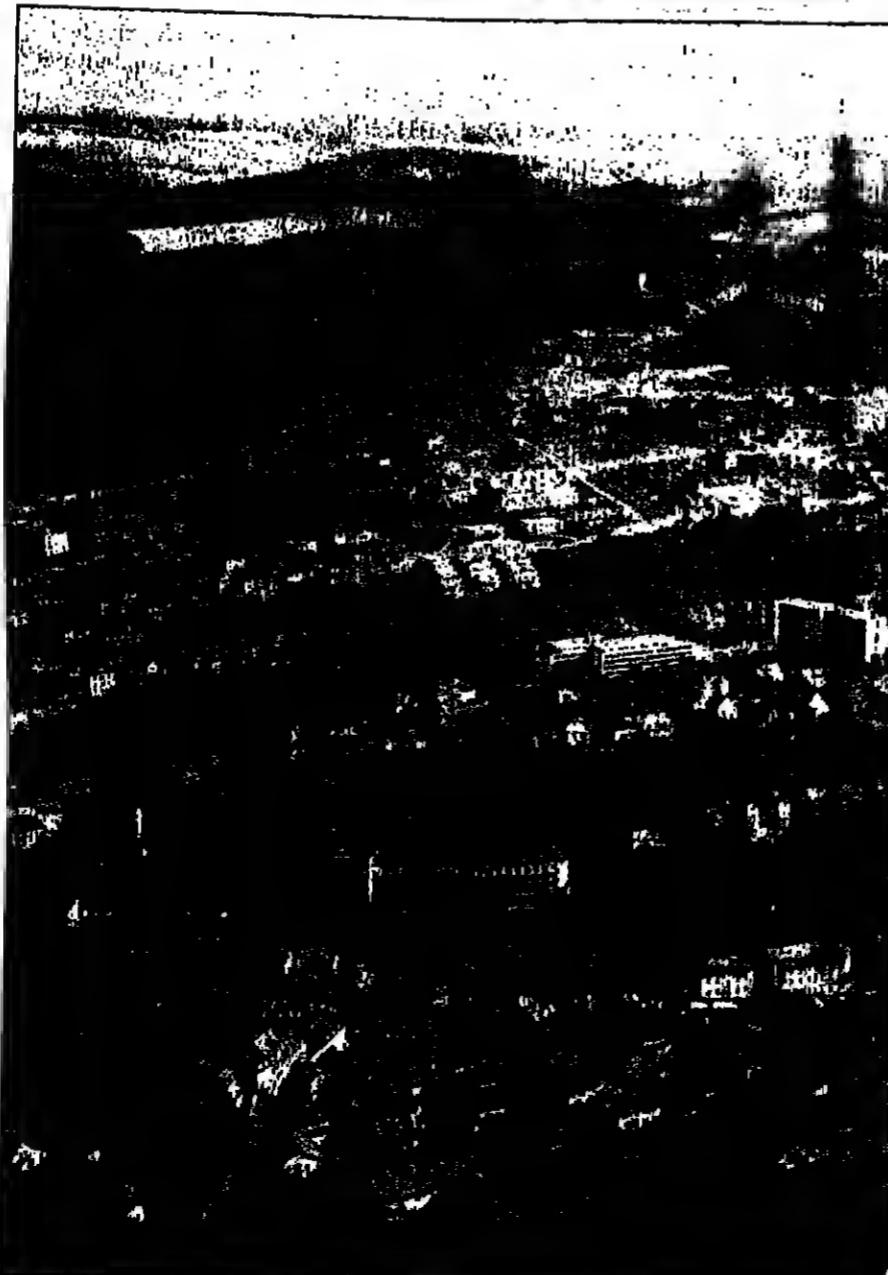
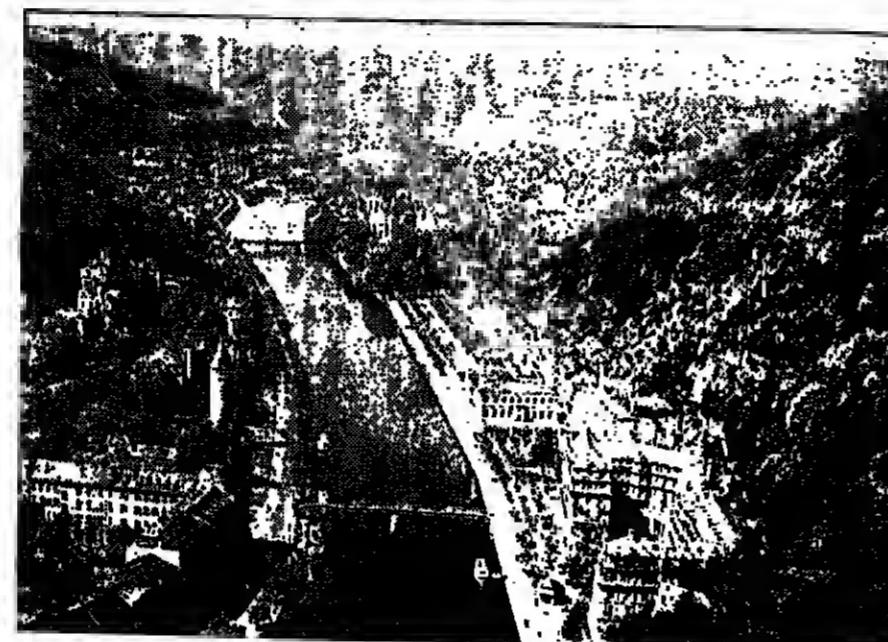


German roads will get you there, say to spas and health resorts spread not all over the country but along a route easily travelled and scenically attractive. From Lahnstein, opposite Koblenz, the Spa Route runs along the wooded chain of hills that border the Rhine valley. Health cures in these resorts are particularly successful in dealing with rheumatism and gynaecological disorders and cardiac and circulatory complaints. Even if you haven't enough time to take a full course of treatment, you ought to take a look at a few pump rooms and sanatoriums. In Bad Ems you must not miss the historic inn known as the *Wirtshaus an der Lahn*. In Bad Schwalbach see for yourself the magnificent *Kursaal*. Take a walk round the Kurpark in Wiesbaden and see the city's casino. Elegant Wiesbaden dates back to the late 19th century Wilhelminian era.

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- 2 Schlangenbad
- 3 Bad Ems
- 4 Bad Schwalbach

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The German Tribune

enburg, 25 January 1987
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The Spa Route

Super polite superpowers restart arms talks

DIE ZEIT

The superpowers have been back on talking terms in a fresh round of talks between Moscow since mid-January.

They have resumed meetings and are negotiating between the Soviet mission, behind its tall steel fence in the Avenue de la Paix, and the no less resplendently fenced-in US mission on the Route de Breteigny.

Just as they did after Reykjavik the superpowers are busily proclaiming that the way to agreement is now open.

Yet so far they have behaved like two super-polite gentlemen blocking the path to arms control by saying "After you!" — "No, after you!"

True, both the Americans and the Russians are evidently interested in coming to terms but strictly their own respective terms.

President Reagan, under pressure after the Iran arms-for-hostages and Nicaraguan Contra funding affair, could well do with a foreign policy success at present.

For weeks he has been on the lookout for news headlines to overshadow the steady flow of revelations about alleged dirty tricks in the White House basement.

The two sides, President Reagan said in his New Year's address to Soviet citizens, had come closer together than ever before.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is similarly showing signs of impatience. In 1987, he announced at the end of last year, he would be devoting his full energy to negotiating disarmament terms with the United States.

Colourless specialist Viktor Karpenko has been replaced as head of the Soviet delegation by Yuli Vorontsov, an American expert and close associate of Anatoly Dobrynin, the central committee secretary in charge of foreign ties.

In Moscow official assurances are given that the Soviet Union is keen to come to terms with Washington while President Reagan is still in office, i.e. until the beginning of 1989.

We don't want to waste time until the next US Presidential elections in two years, Soviet officials say.

But what use are they to make of the time that lies ahead? The degree to which this issue preoccupies action men in the Kremlin is indicated by their persistent questioning of Western visitors in recent months.

Western visitors have been bombarded with questions amounting to whether they felt a compromise might be reached with President Reagan be-

fore the United States is preoccupied with the Presidential election campaign from the beginning of next year.

"You know the Americans," they are asked. "What do you think?" The answer Mr Gorbachev has consistently heard will come as no surprise.

Only with President Reagan could he hope to come to terms in the near future, he was told. Only he could carry the votes of conservatives in the US Senate, where treaty ratification requires a two-thirds majority.

Henry Kissinger recently outlined the schedules for possible agreement. "To wait for the next two years," he wrote, "amounts in effect to forfeiting four to six years . . .

"A new President must first get his hand in. He has to appoint a new Administration. He has to establish relations with Congress on a new footing.

"On strictly practical grounds alone, serious negotiations would hardly be possible before the first year of a new President's term had ended. Even then it would still be a while before terms were agreed."

This line of argument has a convincing ring, but pressure of time does not always lead to readiness to compromise. Quite the opposite.

It now seems likelier than before the train rumpus that President Reagan will insist on SDI come what may and be kept to his policy line by his right-wing aides.

Defense Secretary Weinberger has announced that the first stage of an SDI system could be operational by the early 1990s.

"Reagan," says a close associate of the President's, "will never give up SDI. It forms part of his political legacy, like the Reagan Doctrine, fiscal reform and reducing government influence."

It would seem virtually out of the question that the ageing President, who will soon be 76, might be prepared to consider abandoning his convictions. He wants to come to terms but isn't prepared to abandon his pet project.

Besides, he probably couldn't do so even if he wanted. Robert Ellsworth, a fellow-Republican, former Assistant Defense Secretary and now one of the most independent observers of the



As polling booths open . . .

Chancellor Kohl (left) and his Social Democrat challenger, Johannes Rau, make their eve of election appeals for voters to turn out in today's general election. Kohl's conservative coalition is heavily favoured (see page 3).

(Photo: Sven Simon)

have hinted just about everywhere that this point might be reconsidered.

What mainly matters, they say, is that no tests are carried out in space.

The crucial question, however, is whether the Soviet leader is willing — and has the political clout — to loosen the string of the Soviet all-or-nothing (no progress without strict agreement on SDI) package.

There are good reasons why he might be well-advised to do so. For one, the Gordian knot of linkage undermines the credibility of the Soviet claim to be prepared for disarmament.

A man who, like Mr Gorbachev, seeks to impress world opinion with large-scale visions of disarmament can hardly afford to split hairs.

Besides, the new precondition runs counter to earlier Soviet objections. Before Reykjavik the Soviet Union was prepared to come to separate terms on scrapping medium-range missiles.

The moderate tenor of the Soviet reaction to the latest US branch of Salt 2 serves merely to confirm the equanimity with which Soviet leaders, civilian and military, view the current strategic balance — the equanimity of someone who went ahead with his own arms build-up in good time.

Last but not least, SDI is no longer, to a large extent, the menace it once was for the Soviet Union.

Andrei Sakharov is now convinced, as are less independent Soviet experts, that "a powerful opponent will always find ways and means of outwitting any defence system in outer space — and at far less expense."

What is more, the clouds of uncertainty are increasingly descending on the future of SDI in Washington. Congress has cut budget allocations for the ambitious programme more than once.

Now the US budget deficit is weighing increasingly heavily, the Democrats control the Senate as well as the House of Representatives and President Rea-

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■ WORLD AFFAIRS

Canada has a dual role across Atlantic

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Canada, the old adage has it, was invented in defiance of geography and in defiance of the United States.

The geography is unchanged, but the rancour of Canada's early years has long been superseded by both adaptation and self-assertion.

"We are a European nation," a Canadian diplomat said in Toronto at a recent meeting of the *Athlone-Bridge* with its North American counterpart.

This is a fact that threatens to be forgotten on both sides of the Atlantic.

It deserves to be recalled, just as appropriate conclusions then need to be reached.

If, then, Canada is both a European and an American country, it certainly follows that it must play its dual role.

In dealing with the Europeans it must first be the other North American, a part it last visibly played, from 1984 to 1986, at the Stockholm conference on confidence-building and security measures in Europe.

At the same time Canada is Europe's advocate and intermediary in North America, task it can fairly tackle as the second-largest country in the world with a population of 25 million, respectable political credentials and a sound economy.

In the post-war period the Canadians played their European role pragmatically and with sound judgement, and no-one derived greater benefit than the Germans.

The Canadians played a leading part in ensuring that containment of the Soviet Union evolved from a unilateral American commitment to a treaty system.

They were first to appreciate the con-

nexion between Western security and German rearmament.

They also made it clear that the Germans might be either the sinners of Europe or its defenders — but not both.

The maple leaf country now faces a twofold uncertainty in respect of trade ties with the United States and the strategic division of labour in North America.

In 1985 the Canadians, disappointed by Europe's failure to respond to their "third option" policy and alarmed by protectionist trends in Washington, sought to negotiate comprehensive free trade terms with the United States.

They did so against the background of a gradual transition from commodity exports to exports of industrial goods and 30 per cent of the Canadian GNP being export-oriented.

Eighty per cent of Canadian exports go to the United States (a 1964 pact ensuring integration of the automobile industry) and 75 per cent of Canadian imports come from the US.

The current target is neither a common market nor a customs union with the United States, both of which would call Canada's economic self-determination into question.

All Canada wants is to ensure that it retains free access to the US market.

Yet even this pragmatic, defensive approach is viewed as socially controversial in Canada. The long-term consequences for the Canadian way of life are viewed with even greater misgivings.

Canada attaches to its cultural identity the importance of the United States attaches to national security.

For 200 years Canada's cultural identity has been dominated by the clash with the US.

The Americans believe in market forces, the Canadians in strict regulation.

They always saw the Wild West as a nightmare, not as a dream.

The present negotiations will take years and their outcome is uncertain, arguably due — at least in part — to the doldrums in which Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's Progressive Conservative government is currently languishing.

Offenders against the law and the peace were if need be to be brought to ransom by joint military sanctions,

This plan came part of the scenario in

Continued from page 1
gan's star is paling, Congress is even less likely to kowtow to Pentagon wishes.

There is one last and maybe crucial reason why Moscow might choose to make less fuss over SDI. It is the Congressional endeavour to commit the Reagan Administration in its SDI programme to the narrow limits defined in the ABM Treaty.

President Reagan and his SDI supporters have been trying for over a year to break the bounds of this treaty obligation. It is, indeed, the only context in which what happened at Reykjavik makes sense.

What President Reagan wanted, as he has consistently stressed, was an unhindered authorisation to research, test and develop anti-missile systems in outer space for 10 years.

Testing and developing anti-missile systems in outer space is banned by the terms of the ABM Treaty. President Reagan wanted to negotiate an exemption in Reykjavik.

The Soviet Union would bear nothing of the idea and insisted instead on even more stringent restrictions.

Congress might now be in a position to build a bridge over the gap that was so very apparent in Reykjavik. As the White House referred to the classified course of negotiations in its bid to break

the bounds of the ABM Treaty a number of Senators demanded and were granted the right to examine the documents themselves.

Their report is expected any day now. What it will look like can be judged from the tenor of a letter by one of the Senators, Democrat Carl Levin, to Secretary of State Shultz in December.

The legal survey by the State Department's chief legal officer was incomplete and biased, he wrote, and the approach to the survey faulty from the outset.

Observers in Washington no longer doubt that Congress will be the best of its ability insist on the Reagan Administration abiding by the old interpretation of the ABM Treaty, probably by refusing to allocate funds for SDI tests that go further than permitted.

So there are few signs as yet that either of the superpowers, both of which are busy saying "After you!" to each other in Geneva, will take the crucial first step.

The major problems of arms control are doubtless being sounded out.

Options for a later settlement may be discussed. But a breakthrough remains most unlikely.

In future less will depend on how Washington and Moscow negotiate with each other than on how they behave toward each other.

Can Congress clip the Pentagon's wings? Will the Kremlin honour this by exercising restraint? That, at present, is the brightest hope of disarmament.

The first proof of the pudding will be in February when the United States goes ahead with its next nuclear test in the Nevada desert.

Congress raised objections to this plan last autumn, although it failed to do

Bonn goes back on to the Security Council

This year sees the Federal Republic of Germany back on the UN Security Council.

It last served a two-year term on the UN's highest executive body in 1977/78.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher rightly described the endorsement of the Federal Republic by a substantial majority in the UN General Assembly as evidence of international confidence in the continuity and predictability of Bonn's foreign policy.

They did so against the background of a gradual transition from commodity exports to exports of industrial goods and 30 per cent of the Canadian GNP being export-oriented.

Eighty per cent of Canadian exports go to the United States (a 1964 pact ensuring integration of the automobile industry) and 75 per cent of Canadian imports come from the US.

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Offenders against the law and the peace were if need be to be brought to ransom by joint military sanctions,

This plan came part of the scenario in

the clash of interests in a world divided into blocs.

The Security Council has nowhere near fully exercised its peacekeeping potential.

Over the years it has left a lasting impression of inefficiency, half-measures and feeble compromises.

Accusations of reluctance to arrive at decisions, whether justified or not, have led to many serious conflicts not even brought before the Security Council.

Two days before Christmas, to take a recent instance, the Security Council was called on to denounce the Gulf War, which Iran and Iraq have waged for over six years.

Its sorry conclusion was that the escalation of hostilities was "alarming and regrettable." Both sides were called on to sound out opportunities of reaching a peaceful settlement of the conflict in close collaboration with the UN Secretary-General.

It need hardly be added that such toothless resolution will make not iota of difference to the dreadful reality of war in the Gulf.

Even so, the Security Council's work is not in vain.

Peacekeeping operations manned by UN forces may not always have kept the peace in acute crises but they have definitely played a part in defusing conflicts and preventing unnecessary bloodshed.

The stationing of blue-helmeted UN forces in Cyprus and the Middle East is unquestionably a feather in the UN's cap even though modes of deployment might be improved.

Whi the Security Council and other UN bodies could well do with the ability to prevent potential conflict rather than waiting until a crisis has come to head.

Maybe the Bonn delegation will succeed in making headway in this direction.

Herbert Lehner
(General-Anzeiger, Bonn, 2 January 1987)

Continued from page 1
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The legal survey by the State Department's chief legal officer was incomplete and biased, he wrote, and the approach to the survey faulty from the outset.

Those who want nothing to do with the Reagan Administration will now insist that the knots securing the Soviet package stay firmly tied.

So there are few signs as yet that either of the superpowers, both of which are busy saying "After you!" to each other in Geneva, will take the crucial first step.

The major problems of arms control are doubtless being sounded out.

Options for a later settlement may be discussed. But a breakthrough remains most unlikely.

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so in manner that was legally binding. This time it might be tempted to restrain the President more effectively.

The Soviet Union says its moratorium on nuclear tests is conditional on the United States following suit. A similar approach has been adopted in reverse on anti-satellite weapons.

Can arms control be achieved by means of reciprocal restraint? That would fall well short of the visions outlined in Reykjavik.

Yet it would be far from the worst solution for the interim until such time as Washington is back in business and fully capable of action.

It was hoped that this might help overcome the traditional animosity towards political parties.

Parties were by no means intended to become direct institutions of the state.

They were neither supposed to "internalise" the functions nor absorbed by the state.

Political parties were expected to play a significant role in the shaping of public opinion, but serve the interests of the constitution in doing so.

The "servants" in this political process, however, have long since become the "masters" of political procedures.

Supporting the development of informed public opinion no longer meant just formulating alternatives on behalf of the general public, but predetermined the categories and content of the opinions the public should have.

In all correspondence please quote your subscription number, name and address.

The figure in 1983 was 44.1 million.

■ THE GENERAL ELECTION

The sound of stumbling is all that is disturbing the peace

DIE ZEIT

Rarely has there been a general election campaign with so little content. None of the parties has proved capable of really tackling the challenges of today.

It is not as if there is a shortage of issues: East-West relations, arms control, environmental and energy policies, unemployment and the demographic shifts in West German society.

Two days before Christmas, to take a recent instance, the Security Council was called on to denounce the Gulf War, which Iran and Iraq have waged for over six years.

Its sorry conclusion was that the escalation of hostilities was "alarming and regrettable." Both sides were called on to sound out opportunities of reaching a peaceful settlement of the conflict in close collaboration with the UN Secretary-General.

Admittedly, the fact that no-one can by-pass political parties to get into parliament ensures a functioning (in the traditional sense) of the parliamentary system.

However, the way in which lists of candidates are drawn up within the parties, i.e. without the codetermination of the entire membership or the electorate in the form of "primary elections", already produces an atmosphere of sterility and conformity.

Political consistency seems to be in greater demand than political alternatives. But there are signs this will change after the election.

How, for example, are the Social Democrats likely to respond to a clear election defeat or the CDU/CSU to a clear election victory?

The final stage of the election campaign is very much a twilight zone between the pre-election certainties and the post-election uncertainties.

The CDU/CSU has been stumbling over its internal foreign policy dispute and the FDP has been vacillating between adapting to and dissociating itself from conservative voters.

The SPD seems unable to vacillate in the same way due to the paralysing effect of the postponement of internal discussions on fundamental issues.

The Greens can afford to stage the permanent conflict between the pragmatic support of coalitions with other parties and the fundamentalistic rejection of such a policy, since other parties are not interested in enacting anyway.

An atmosphere of fruitful political discussion was hardly to be expected in view of this lack of suspense and firm.

Reference to the immediate problems facing political parties, however, cannot suffice to interpret the current situation.

It need hardly be added that the party politics and its dictates can also be observed elsewhere.

Hurly political discussion takes place in Protestant and Catholic academies without a representative of the parties represented in the Bundestag being invited to participate.

The field of broadcasting is an alarming example.

Politicians have degenerated the electronic media into a mere accompanying factor rather than a countervailing power.

This trend towards conforming to party politics and its dictates can also be observed elsewhere.

It was hardly surprising that the collapse of the SPD-FDP coalition in 1982 was not only accompanied by a CDU/CSU takeover of government power but also by the entry of the Greens into the Bundestag.

The period since 1982 can basically be described as an interregnum.

On the one hand, there was a clearly conservative trend; on the other hand, the agonising yet essential attempt to

openly settle the conflict between traditional politics and serious social problems and between conventional political parties and new social movements.

It was hoped that this would prevent the conflict from getting bogged down in parliamentary politics.

Regardless of the criticism which can be levelled against the programmes and campaigns of the Greens, viewed objectively, played an integrating role in this process — despite their ambivalent attitude towards parliamentary activities.

This becomes obvious when the question is asked: what would have happened if their supporters and voters had dropped out of the system altogether?

Viewed objectively, the Social Democrats have also suffered from the difficulties involved in trying



■ GERMANY

Berlin grafts a new face on to its old urbanity

This is one of an occasional series to mark the 750th anniversary of Berlin this year. The author, Joachim Fest, is a historian and senior member of the editorial staff of the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*.

For many years visitors to Berlin were struck by the city's progressive decline and loss of vitality. From one visit to the next they were sadly aware of growing paralysis and resignation.

These qualities were accompanied by a special neurosis that surprisingly seemed to deform even the hale and hearty character of Berliners, who showed signs of unexpected self-pity and lachrymosity.

A further factor was that Berlin had forfeited its special role and was left in many quarters to be merely a tiresome vestige of German history and the unresolved East-West conflict.

The constant quest for a new lag for the city's role, a successor to that of a "front-line city" and "shop-window" on the Western world, is characteristic.

This sad impression has undergone a total change in recent years, and a series of scandals involving dubious friendships between politicians and the building trade did no more than temporarily and insignificantly dent the new impression.

Only a few years ago three governments in succession were forced to resign in connection with similar scandals. Mayor Diepgen has serenely survived the latest crop.

It has less to do with his personal integrity. His predecessors had that too. What is

different is that latest allegations of bribery and corruption came at a time of fresh and growing self-confidence.

Richard von Weizsäcker started the ball rolling toward this new self-confidence, although it is still hard to define just what he accomplished as Mayor.

Cynics continue to argue that he did little more than give his blessing from on high to whatever was done, but maybe that was just what a city racked by self-doubt needed at the time.

There has been a comparable batch of new ideas and fresh starts in environmental protection, city planning and the arts.

The arts have at times seemed threatened by a surfeit of public offerings, but standards have also been set by private initiative.

The Social Democrats sought to hide their lack of ideas by assiduously courting the Zeitgeist, or spirit of the age, but it was a spirit of perplexity it sought to use rather than surmount.

A wide range of reasons can now be put forward to account for the change of climate in Berlin. There is also a range of symptoms that soon assume the status of reasons. The city now has a net inflow of workers and businesses. Commercial investment has increased spectacularly and since 1980 has been up to 10 times the national average.

I, like many others, was quick to recognise the outstanding merit of President Weizsäcker's Bundestag speech on May 8, 1986.

In congratulating him I expressed the hope that it would receive intensive publicity.

Since then, having read and re-read the speech, I have come to feel that special efforts should be devoted to perpetuate his message.

— Arthur F. Burns, A speech and its effect, page 60

"A SPEECH AND ITS EFFECT"

edited by Ulrich Gill and Winfried Stoffel, members of the Institute of political science, University of Hamburg, is an anthology of different opinions on President Weizsäcker's Bundestag speech on May 8, 1986.

The authors:

- Irmgard Adam-Schweitzer, member of the German Bundestag (FDP)
- Egon Bahr, member of the German Bundestag (SPD)
- Jitzhak Ben-Art, ambassador of the state of Israel in Germany
- Dieter Blumenthal, professor of International law, Würzburg
- Arthur F. Burns, ambassador of the United States from 1981 till 1985
- Herbert Czeje, leading member of the refugee association
- Lieselotte Funcke, Federal Commissioner for Aliens
- Alfred Grosser, political scientist, Paris
- Jerzy Holzer, historian and scientist, Warsaw
- Karl Ibach, president of the German association of resistance fighters
- Neil Johnson, political scientist, Oxford, U.K.
- Patrice Kelly, leading member of the Greens
- Lev Kopelev, Russian dissident and author
- Norbert Lammert, member of the German Bundestag (CDU)
- Werner Nachmann, central council of Jews in Germany
- Lorenz Niegels, member of the German Bundestag (CSU)
- Roman Rose, president of the association of Sinti and Roma gypsy organizations
- Wolfgang Seiffert, political scientist, Kiel
- Winfried Stoffel, political scientist, Hamburg

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■ GERMANY

Prisoner sales earn East cash and goods

Talk by Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl of "political prisoners" in the GDR has brought back to the limelight the longstanding ransom payments made by Bonn governments in return for the release of convicts by East Berlin.

Human rights organisations estimate that successive Federal governments have bought the freedom of roughly 50,000 inmates of GDR jails since 1963 in return for payments in cash and kind.

Views continue to differ on whether this practice must be seen as a humanitarian gesture or as a trade in human lives.

The prisoners whose release is secured in this way, and possibly they alone, are in no two minds on whether the trade is good or bad.

Many released prisoners, usually sentenced to the West in bursts, served sentences for attempting to escape to the West, mainly via Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia (very few try to escape across the extremely dangerous intra-German border), which is a criminal offence in East Germany.

Article 213 of the GDR criminal code, headed "illegal border-crossing," an offence also known as "flight from the Republic," provides for up to two years' jail for trying to escape to the West.

The SPD demands that refugees and others convicted of "criminal offences against the state and public order" as common criminals.

East Berlin was quick to refuse the charge made by Chancellor Kohl at an election campaign meeting that "over 2,000 of our fellow-countrymen are kept as political prisoners in gaols and concentration camps" in the GDR.

An official statement proclaimed that there were no political prisoners in the GDR other than people convicted of war crimes, Nazi offences, the murder of Jews and crimes against humanity.

Yet the trade in prisoners continues.

As a rule Bonn government officials name prisoners suitable for "trading" to relatives in the West. It will influence the order in which their names are proposed.

For the GDR an East Berlin lawyer, Wolfgang Vogel, has gained a reputation for settling such difficult human and family problems.

The GDR generally responds to Western lists of prisoners suitable for trading by making counter-proposals, such as submitting a list of urgently needed products.

Without a rapid modernisation of the alliance's conventional forces, Abschleben claims, it will be impossible to develop a credible deterrent to this threat.

This, however, means abandoning ex-

■ PEOPLE

Washington appoints new man to top Nato post

Frankfurter Allgemeine

The new US permanent representative to Nato's North Atlantic Council in Brussels is Alton Keel, a 43-year-old engineer and expert on arms research.

Keel, who was deputy to Admiral Poindexter from July 1986 on the National Security Council, succeeds David Abshire as the USA's Nato "ambassador."

It is difficult to say how great Abshire's empathy for the specific historical circumstances in Europe is.

Developments on the European continent have not always been determined by power politics alone.

In many instances there has been a clear difference between the American way of thinking and acting and the course pursued by individual European nations.

Americans often become impatient when faced by patterns of behaviour which have evolved from centuries of historical experience and when confronted by deeply-rooted national sentiments.

He deserves the credit, he boasts, for having persuaded the future chairman of the powerful Senate Armed Forces Committee in Washington, Senator Sam Nunn (Dem., Georgia) to stop threatening to withdraw American troops from Europe because of the alleged lack of willingness of Nato partners to bear their fair share of defence costs.

What is more, he claims responsibility for having gained Nunn's support for a legal rider envisaging closer collaboration between the USA and Europe in this field.

Abschleben's main concern is whether Nato will be able to effectively counter the expected increase in the threat posed by the conventional forces of Warsaw Pact countries in the 1990s.

The ability to do so is all the more vital in view of the fact that the nuclear threat is also likely to increase.

At the beginning of the 1990s, Abschleben believes, the Soviet Union will have reached the peak of its military power and at the same time "find itself in a desperate economic situation."

Moscow could then be in a position to spread out its naval and air force units along the Norwegian coast, cut off Nato's northern flank without firing a single shot and prevent a scabious reinforcement of troops from Western Europe.

Peter Corterier was a successful direct-candidate for his party in his constituency three times.

The former mayor of Bremen, Hans Koschnick (SPD), once called Corterier a "complete idiot".

Corterier's withdrawal from political life has been in stages.

Before the 1983 general election campaign the regional section of the SPD in Baden, which had undergone a clear swing to the left, punished Corterier for supporting the Nato twin-track decision by putting him on a long list of candidates.

What he asks, about the Americans? This, of course, is a reference to the arms-for-hostages deal by which Iran was to use its influence to secure the release of American hostages in Lebanon.

Ralph Bouhouw/rtr
(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 9 January 1987)

pensive national defence policy priorities for the sake of greater collective security efforts.

Abschleben views his main task in Brussels as that of maintaining close links with the Congress and the Pentagon.

For European partners he is thus a kind of "canvasser" for European interests and interests.

This certainly applies to the technical, economic and strategic questions dealt with regularly by the North Atlantic Council.

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In many instances there has been a clear difference between the American way of thinking and acting and the course pursued by individual European nations.

Americans often become impatient when faced by patterns of behaviour which have evolved from centuries of historical experience and when confronted by deeply-rooted national sentiments.

He deserves the credit, he boasts, for having persuaded the future chairman of the powerful Senate Armed Forces Committee in Washington, Senator Sam Nunn (Dem., Georgia) to stop threatening to withdraw American troops from Europe because of the alleged lack of willingness of Nato partners to bear their fair share of defence costs.

What is more, he claims responsibility for having gained Nunn's support for a legal rider envisaging closer collaboration between the USA and Europe in this field.

The new secretary-general of the North Atlantic Assembly, Peter Corterier, probably felt a little melancholy when he moved into the small neo-baroque palace in the Place du Petit Sablon in Brussels.

After all, this new start for 50-year-old Corterier also means the end (for the time being) of a dynasty of politicians in his native Karlsruhe.

Since 1953 the Corteriers have represented the Karlsruhe constituency as members of the SPD in Bonn; Fritz Corterier up until 1969, and his son Peter (with a short break between 1983-1984) ever since.

Setbacks and rebukes within his party, however, left Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's minister of state in the Bonn Foreign Office with no option but to beat an orderly retreat.

The old laments continue, of course, especially complaints that Berlin is kaputt.

Criticism of this kind likes to feel it is in line with Berlin's critical tradition, but in reality it is devolved by being too lachrymose and sounds more like ageing media hacks turning out the same old story.

Berlin has two years of celebration ahead of it. This year is the 750th anniversary of its incorporation as a city. Next year will be its turn as "Europe's cultural capital city." At present it has more of the prerequisites that lend substance to such celebrations than has been the case for years.

Payments made to the GDR are seen by East Berlin as compensation for the cost of education and vocational training of released convicts. There can, it is stressed, be no question of making a fairly brisk trade.

What he asks, about the Americans? This, of course, is a reference to the arms-for-hostages deal by which Iran was to use its influence to secure the release of American hostages in Lebanon.

Ralph Bouhouw/rtr
(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 9 January 1987)



David Abshire... out.



Alton Keel... in.

(Photos: dpa)

political problems and whether he will be able to make use of the political side of Nato to exert a favourable influence on East-West relations.

This aspect has become more and more important since the Hormel Report was published almost 20 years ago. For Europeans it is a yardstick for what can be achieved in terms of effective deterrence while at the same time effectively safeguarding defence.

This is particularly true when new stimuli emerge, for example, in the wake of the Reykjavik summit.

In no other post can an official representative of the United States get to know European security interests and European political attitudes as well as on the North Atlantic Council.

The reports passed on to Washington by the US Nato representative in Brussels can help to prevent the kind of political "parochialism" the "fathers of Nato" hoped to put an end to and for all.

Jan Reisenberg
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 2 January 1987)

New start ends a Karlsruhe dynasty



Peter Corterier... dispute over defence

Isten, the SPD's youth organisation, member of the Bundestag and the European Parliament, representative of the SPD on the External Relations Committee, member of the parliamentary party's executive committee and minister of state.

"I do not agree with important elements of the SPD's foreign and security policy," Corterier says today.

He was not willing to support the about-turn made by many party colleagues during the post-Schmidt era.

In his opinion the essential premises of a free and democratic policy for the Federal Republic of Germany are membership of Nato, nuclear deterrence and solidarity with the USA.

The Corterier family with its Huguenot background was already once forced to leave its home. He too is a much-travelled man, with excellent contacts in Washington.

His presidency of the Atlantic Association of Young Politicians (1965-1969) paved the way to the post he will now take up in Brussels.

Corterier, who will be moving to Belgium with his wife and daughter, is the first German to head the North Atlantic Assembly.

The organisation, which is not an official Nato body and which convenes once or twice a year, regards itself as a link between Nato and the parliaments of its member countries.

It compiles reports and forwards recommendations for the various parliaments.

Will Corterier ever return to Bonn as a politician? "A great deal depends on how the SPD develops," he replies.

Hans Krupp
(Die Welt, Bonn, 6 January 1987)

Real growth this year should be 2.5 per cent, according to the 1987 economic report approved by the Bonn Cabinet. It was probably the last economic policy step before the election.

It certainly marked an end for the time being to successive growth forecasts for the year ahead, some differing widely but all agreed in expecting the economy to forge ahead into its fifth year of largely uninterrupted growth.

Yet the economic outlook as forecast by both economists and the Federal government in its annual report hardly creates the impression of being a powerhouse obviating any need for provision against contingencies.

The 2.5 per cent real economic growth described as both desirable and feasible in the 1987 economic report sounds more like a teetering plant that will need constant care and observation in the months ahead.

A point that weighs more heavily than all the crystal ball-gazing about growth rates and percentage points is that all serious economic observers are agreed that the economic upswing sustained since 1982 is soundly based.

Voters will largely pass judgment on the government's economic policy performance at the polls...

Experts agree that the outgoing Bonn government has laid a much firmer foundation for lasting growth and full employment than the governments of most industrialised countries.

One of the most unsatisfactory figures forecast is unemployment at an ongoing high of 8.5 per cent, or a seasonally adjusted average of about 2,150,000 West Germans out of work.

Yet the outlook for 1987 remains immature in terms of stability. The government is not expecting prices to in-

THE ECONOMY

Earlier tax cuts likely in effort to boost demand



Stagnation in Europe

crease by more than one per cent, subject to wage trends.

Yet despite the firm foundations on which the economic upswing continues to be based in its fifth successive year it is hardly surprising to see, in the new year's economic report, that the government is considering support measures.

Unemployment, having been due to a succession of past economic and political misdevelopments, cannot simply be reduced by the economic cycle within a few years.

Encrustations in the labour market are still too pronounced and the number of newcomers swelling the ranks of the labour market is still too large for the number of people unemployed to fall rapidly below two million.

This year imports and exports are clearly the sector in which the risk of economic forecasts going haywire lies.

The latest revaluation of the deutschmark within the European Monetary System is arguably the least important risk factor German exports face.

Government officials stress the point that this amendment means there will continue to be no old-style economic booster programmes or packages.

Instead, Germany may soon after the general election benefit from the second stage of the tax relief package, worth DM9bn and originally planned for implementation in 1988/89, being brought forward to boost demand and give the economy an added fillip.

This presupposes that the economy takes a serious turn for the worse, which is not expected to do.

If it does, however, the second stage of the tax cuts package might even be brought forward and implemented in January.

Gerdhard Hennemann

(Suddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 15 January 1987)

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Imports and exports was strictly numerical, foreign trade being denominated in dollars. In real terms imports were up 5.7 and exports up 0.8 per cent.

Between January and October 1986

the Federal Republic also replaced the United States as the world's foremost exporter.

Last but not least, the cost of living

index for the year as a whole declined

by 0.2 per cent. The 1985 figure was 2.2

per cent up on 1984 and 1984's 2.4 per

cent up on 1983.

The record foreign trade figures for

1986 are available in detail for January

to November, with the December figures still estimates.

A striking feature is that both ex-

ports, at DM522.6bn, and imports, at

DM412.4bn, were lower than in the

previous record year, 1985.

The record export surplus was due to

imports being down 11 per cent, as

against a mere 2.7-per-cent decline in

exports.

Hölder added that the decline in both

Record export surplus and zero inflation in 1986

The Federal Republic of Germany bought more goods in the United States last year than in 1985, says Egon Hölder, head of the Federal Statistics Office in Bonn. In answer to accusations from Washington that the Germans have been lacking in trade "solidarity" with America.

Imports from the United States declined in value by 1.8 per cent last year, but that was mainly due to a de facto 36-per-cent revaluation of the 'deutschmark' against the dollar.

Hölder estimates the real increase in imports from America to have been between five and eight per cent.

He announced details of several statistical records set up in 1986. Last year's export surplus was DM110.2bn, or well over 50 per cent higher than the previous record, 1985's DM73.4bn.

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ered by more than one per cent, subject to wage trends.

Yet despite the firm foundations on which the economic upswing continues to be based in its fifth successive year it is hardly surprising to see, in the new year's economic report, that the government is considering support measures.

For many domestic consumers lower oil prices will only now have an effect, with lower heating bills resulting in repayments, lower monthly instalments and more purchasing power released for spending in other sectors.

Additional support measures are not ruled out but will only be considered if the extra domestic demand fails to offset a marked decline in export demand.

The final version of the report, however, unlike the first draft, makes no mention of the economic policy toolkit placed at the government's disposal by the Stability and Growth Act.

Government officials stress the point that this amendment means there will continue to be no old-style economic booster programmes or packages.

Instead, Germany may soon after the general election benefit from the second stage of the tax relief package, worth DM9bn and originally planned for implementation in 1988/89, being brought forward to boost demand and give the economy an added fillip.

This presupposes that the economy takes a serious turn for the worse, which is not expected to do.

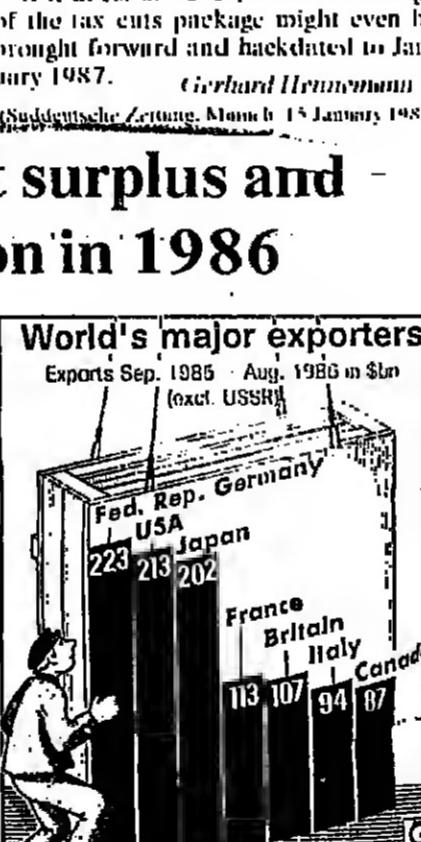
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Gerdhard Hennemann

(Suddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 15 January 1987)

Continued on page 7

Exports Sep. 1985 - Aug. 1986 in \$bn (excl. USSR)



Imports and exports was strictly num-

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Continued on page 7

INDUSTRY

Prussian porcelain, a legacy of Frederick the Great

RHEINISCHER MERKUR

Porcelain has been imported from the Far East since the Middle Ages. It was expensive and called white gold.

The money was coined from silver tableware, to be replaced by porcelain. The King said: "We have nothing left except our honour, hat, walking stick and our porcelain."

Augustus the Strong, Elector of Saxony (1694-1733), was one of the greatest collectors of porcelain tableware and figures of his period.

Friedrich Böttcher, an apprentice apothecary from Berlin who wanted to be a goldsmith, was kept prisoner at the Elector's court.

In 1709 he found a way of making a white, translucent cement by firing kaolin with feldspar and quartz, so discovering European hard-paste porcelain.

A year later the Meissen porcelain factory was established, and to this day Meissen is synonymous with high-quality porcelain.

The Saxon monopoly was quickly broken. Other manufacturers sprang up, firstly in Vienna and Venice, then in Höchstädt, near Frankfurt, Fürstenberg and Nymphenburg, near Munich.

Berlin quickly became one of the leading German centres of porcelain manufacture. The porcelain was also famous because it was what we call now non-pollutant: there was little lead in the porcelain tableware produced.

After Frederick the Great's death in 1763 the factory passed into the hands of the Prussian state. In the following years famous artists made drawings for the porcelain designs, including Friedrich Schinkel whose artistic sketches for Schinkel baskets and dishes are still reproduced. The tilework in the porcelain factories, all done by hand, the Soldier King, had no taste for it.

With his Saxon neighbours he exchanged 48 giant Chinese porcelain vases, collected by his wife, Sophie Charlotte, for a complete regiment of cavalry.

This regiment, dubbed the Porcelain Dragoons, was, in fact, responsible for the victory over the Saxons at Kesselsdorf in 1745, won by the Soldier King's son, Frederick the Great, in the Second Silesian War. As a result of this victory he got his hands on Meissen.

Frederick the Great was not so philistine as his father. He was delighted by the costly items of porcelain he saw at Meissen. In 1751 he commissioned a Berlin wool merchant, Wegely, to set up his own porcelain factory, but a few years later this factory was closed down because it made a loss.

Wegely was followed by Ernst Gotzkowsky, Polish by birth, who had a difficulty convincing the Prussians that the porcelain factory could be successful. He brought in workers from Meissen, but he also was unable to get the enterprise off the ground.

Having brought the Seven Years War to a victorious conclusion in 1763 Frederick

Continued

■ CONSUMER PROTECTION

Pensioner proves millions of heating bills are wrong

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Central heating bills paid by 780,000 German householders have been based since 1982 on inaccurate data read from devices installed by a Hamburg firm, says a Munich pensioner.

Otmar Steigleder, 63, a retired weights and measures official, has fought and, so it seems, won a one-man battle against the Hamburg company.

In his initial anger at the succession of inaccurate heating bills he was sent by Kalarimeta, the fourth-largest firm of its kind in the Federal Republic, there were times, a year ago, when he would have liked nothing better than to see his Goliath toppled.

But the company is still in business and, in retrospect, he feels that is perhaps just as well. "You can't milk a dead cow," he says.

Kalarimeta, who are responsible for billing 780,000 centrally-heated homes all over the country, is better in business (and able to indemnify tenants whose heating bills have been too high) than on the rocks.

He has impressively demonstrated how to take the company to court and seems sure to be right that settling claims will cost the company millions.

He has proved that the process Kalarimeta uses all over the country to assess central heating charges to be paid by tenants in apartment blocks is inaccurate and unusable.

The device to which he took such a dislike looks rather like a thermometer and is slotted between the ribs of central heating radiators. The heat generated makes liquid in the tube evaporate and the level that remains can be read from a scale.

Steigleder claims, and his claim has yet to be disproved, that heating bills all over the country since 1982 based on readings from devices using the Kalarimeta evaporation principle have been inaccurate.

He has helped tenants in the 780,000 apartments all over Germany for which the Hamburg firm assesses the heating bills to register their compensation claims.

He feels it is for the company to in-

stall new devices at its own expense. Replacing an estimated nine million devices should, he says, cost over DM30m.

That is why he takes a dim view of a letter Kalarimeta is now circulating to tenants. While admitting that measurements have been inaccurate the firm is trying to persuade tenants to pay the cost of replacement.

"As the heating measurement devices in your property were installed over 10 years ago," the circular says, "they naturally no longer conform to the latest DIN standards."

"But from January 1987 we can supply you with entirely new devices that more than comply with the current regulations." Kalarimeta will be happy to replace them at the customer's expense, charging DM9.90 per unit, plus VAT at 14 per cent.

Kalarimeta's press spokesman, Klaus-Werner Frenzel, was not prepared to comment on the total cost of replacement but confirmed that his company plans to modernise the entire system.

"We are planning to convert and generally update our facilities," he says, "and will in the process be introducing a new, customer-friendly invoicing system."

But, he adds, it will, of course, be a few years before the new look has been fully implemented. The company is nonetheless determined to "get down to brass tacks" as a confidence-building measure."

That is a point even Herr Steigleder must be prepared to hold in the firm's favour. "He must be fair for once and allow us a little time," Herr Frenzel says.

The Kalarimeta spokesman has no doubts as to who must foot the replacement bill. Customers must pay for the replacement of systems installed before 1981.

The company will foot the bill for equipment installed since 1981 — except where changes have been made to heating systems, such as fitting radiators with thermostat valves.

Herr Frenzel says customers would be well advised not to harbour hopes of substantial repayments. Herr Steigleder had complained of heating costs being wrongly allocated.

That means Kalarimeta would not only make refunds for bills that were too

high but also charge extra for bills that were too low.

When Otmar Steigleder heard about the circular Kalarimeta was sending to customers he lost all patience with the company.

Determined to nip such "monkey business" in the bud he wrote letters requesting action and assistance from a number of quarters.

He called on the Central Association of Property Owners in Düsseldorf and the Central Association of Cooperative Housing Corporations in Cologne to warn their members about the "dubious practices" of the Hamburg firm.

He wrote via the Bavarian SPD to the Social Democrats' business manager in the Bundestag, former Justice Minister Gerhard Jahn, who is president of the German Tenants' Association in Cologne.

He hopes Herr Jahn and his organisation will help him in his battle with Kalarimeta. The whole affair, he wrote in his letter to Herr Jahn, had reached a dimension that was beginning to overtax his financial and physical resources.

He reminded the Tenants Association that it had taken him nearly two years to prove conclusively that Kalarimeta heating meters didn't work properly, for which the company itself was solely to blame.

The firm's behaviour led him to suspect that Kalarimeta was trying "in a roundabout way to pocket the little man's money and quietly destroy the evidence."

"We are planning to convert and generally update our facilities," he says, "and will in the process be introducing a new, customer-friendly invoicing system."

They have been awarded DM15.40,000, 12.5 per cent of the heating bills they challenged. In spite of this, they set off for 1983 to 1985.

Because exact figures for each tenant were no longer available...

Court rulings of this kind naturally encourage others to follow suit. Herr Steigleder says 2,000 Nuremberg tenants have been repaid DM180,000 for the years 1982 to 1985.

In Hamburg 1,200 tenants in Gross-Holbeck have instituted a law suit against the firm. In Munich 2,000 Oberschleißheim tenants are said to have been offered 10-per-cent repayment in respect of their heating bills for 1984 to 1986.

Kalarimeta are showing signs of increasing upset as more and more tenants sue them for damages. There must, they say, be an end to these suits, otherwise the firm will end up on the rocks.

Herr Steigleder would like to see that happen. He is anxious to ensure that all tenants are awarded the repayments that are due.

*Hannes Kill
Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 14 January 1987*



Otmar Steigleder and the faulty meter. (Photo: dpa)

■ RESEARCH

'Meteor' scientists are refused access to much of Red Sea

Work by scientists on board the *Meteor*, the Federal Republic of Germany's new research vessel, is beset by political difficulties. The UN law of the sea convention is the problem.

The ship set sail from Hamburg on 2 January for the eastern Mediterranean, the Red Sea and the north-western Indian Ocean. The expedition will last several months.

The new *Meteor*, commissioned in April 1986, is available for use by all institutes in the Federal Republic that engage in maritime basic research.

About 120 scientists, technicians and students from 22 German research institutes and university departments will be associated with the latest mission, which is to take nearly nine months.

They include staff of research institutes in far-flung places like the Senckenberg Institute in Frankfurt and scientists from Darmstadt, Heidelberg and Munich.

This provision severely restricts the research planned on the mission in progress, especially in the Red Sea.

In a sea that is of extraordinary interest both ecologically and for its fauna, only Sudan has imposed no restrictions whatever on the research work the *Meteor* is entitled to carry out.

Saudi Arabia in contrast has refused the *Meteor* (and all previous applicants) permission to engage in seabed research of any kind in its waters.

The Saudis have yet to draw up provisions for scientific work in their territorial waters and they are not prepared to

make concessions of any kind. Research in Egyptian waters is ruled out because the Egyptian authorities have made research subject to unacceptable conditions, such as that all seabed probes must be handed over to them for analysis in Egypt even though Egypt lacks suitable scientific know-how and facilities.

All scientific abstracts must also be submitted to the Egyptian authorities before publication for authorisation and, possibly, censorship. If there is to be free and unhindered maritime research, conditions of this kind must be uncompromisingly rejected.

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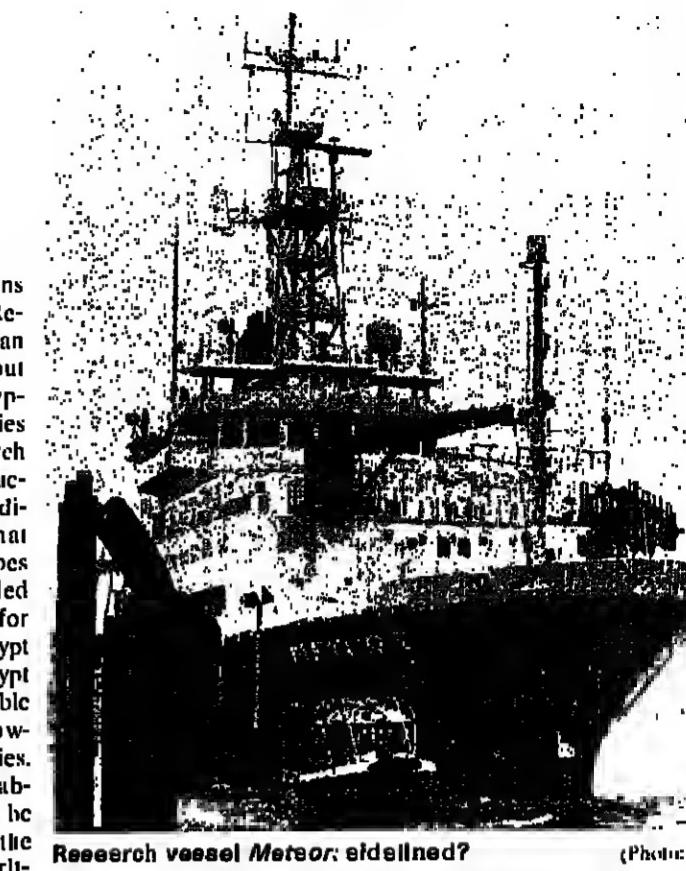
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conditions of this kind must be uncompromisingly rejected.



Research vessel *Meteor*: eddied? (Photo: dpa)

side of the Red Sea. It can only work in the centre and western sectors.

In the final analysis such restrictions rebound on the countries that refuse research permission. Lacking research facilities of their own, they know nothing about the zones over which they have exclusive economic control by the terms of the UN convention.

Wolfgang Klausenitz
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
für Deutschland, 14 January 1987

be observed and examined in what amounts to a gigantic research laboratory.

Atlantis II also makes one of man's dreams come true with its non-stop supply of new commodities constantly surfacing from the bowels of the Earth and settling on the seabed.

Metalurgical analysis and mining trials have shown that mining Atlantis II deposits is not merely possible; it will be most attractive economic proposition.

Hydrothermal ore sludge deposits are by no means the only mineral resources the seven seas have at the ready. Others, in order of depth and distance from the coast, are:

Iron, sand and aggregate for use in construction work — all to be found in shallow coastal waters.

Heavy metal sands, also known as stream ore, are found in many coastal and continental shelf areas at depths of up to 200 metres.

They are deposits from river water that have borne heavy metal eroded from inland deposits downstream and out to sea.

Great importance is attached to deposits of diamonds, thorium and tin and, particularly, of zirconium, ilmenite and rutile.

Zirconium is an important element used in reactor construction and as form sand for foundry casting. Ilmenite and rutile are so-called titanite metals, extremely heat-resistant and tough and indispensable in aerospace technology.

Phosphoric nodules are another interesting commodity. They are hard, grey-black nodules up to 15cm (six inches) in diameter and found at depths of up to about 500 metres.

They contain over 20 per cent phosphorus and are the result of precipitation by mineral-enriched deep-sea water. Crusts rich in cobalt are found on

Continued on page 14

220,00

■ CINEMA

Marlene Dietrich, leavening of rye bread in the glamour

Marlene Dietrich has turned 85. She lives in a Paris apartment behind drawn blinds. Her only link with the outside world is the telephone. Werner Baekker, writing in *Die Welt*, looks back on a remarkable career.

British satirist Noel Coward called her "the beautiful Helen," comparing her to the figure from Greek mythology. Ernest Hemingway affectionately called her "Kraut," which would normally be regarded as a pejorative.

For millions all over the world Marlene Dietrich has been for decades a supreme Hollywood star.

That is what her mentor, Josef von Sternberg, wanted. She owed her international fame to him. She herself said that she did everything that von Sternberg wanted her to do. He was her father, brother and confessor. He was everything.

She has frequently said that "as an actress also I only did my duty." She was doing just that when she sat on a barrel in a low dive and sang "Falling in love again, never wanted to..."

Sternberg wanted her to do this. He had engaged her to play in *Blue Angel*, the film version of Heinrich Mann's novel about impossible love, *Professor Unrat*, in which Emil Jannings played the part of the hopelessly in love school master.

Dietrich, who in the early 1930s showed the Americans what Europeans meant by a "feminine fatale," was an abstract figure, which is what she herself wanted to be. But this had nothing to do with the real Marlene Dietrich.

The truth is that she was a woman from Berlin who cooked chicken soup for her friends and who in the German quarter of New York kept a look out for Westphalian ham and rye bread.

She is to be admired in that in her later years she was still able to keep up her second personality with its facade of glamour.

In 1977 she appeared before the cameras in a best-forgotten film, *Gigolo*, with David Bowie. She must certainly have realised then that her film career was finally at an end, a career that certainly did not begin with *Blue Angel*.

Reluctantly she admitted in a taped interview with Maximilian Schell (for his documentary on Dietrich) that she had appeared in seven films before *Blue Angel*, that had marvellous titles such as *Wenn ein Weib den Weg verliert*, or *Gefahren der Brumzelt*, a film in which she was partnered by Willi Forst.

And only a few people know that Marlene Dietrich played a very minor role in the only Garbo film that was shot in Germany, *Freudlose Gasse* by G.W. Pabst.

For ages she was able to keep secret her date of birth. Then the authorities in East Berlin, of all people, put an end to all the guessing.

A certified copy of her birth certificate showed that she was born on 27 December 1901, daughter of a police officer, Lieutenant Louis Otto Dietrich and Wilhelmine Elisabeth Josephine, née Fehling. She was born in Sedanstrasse 53 in the Schöneberg district of Berlin.

She was very Prussian. Everything the world has admired about her for years was the result of iron self-discipline.

Recently she said: "I can't listen to such rubbish any longer."

Composer and arranger Burt Bacharach was responsible for her second career as a chanson singer.

She appeared on stage, the lighting gentle. As she moved across stages all over the world and sang her songs she seemed unapproachable but dazzlingly beautiful.

Bacharach arranged for me to meet her in her New York apartment at the beginning of the 1960s. I saw confirmation then of all that her friends had said about her: that she was a motherly woman with a great sense of humour, who loved to make tea and talk through pictures of her grandchildren rather than talk about her career.

She brought to mind the text of an old hit song by Friedrich Hallender, which Dietrich sang. Translated it said: "I don't know to whom I belong, I only belong to myself alone."

One of the features of her 85th birthday is that she is still able to knock the bottom out of every viewer taken of her.

She was only once married, to Rudolf Sieber, a director from the Berlin of the 1920s. She remained his good friend until his death.

Did she have affairs? Letters to her have been deposited in a bank safe. She maintains that there have nothing to do with sex.

She told Maximilian Schell: "I was not erotic, I only gave that impression." But that impression has guaranteed her a



Marlene Dietrich

(Photo: dpa)

Pola Negri, star of silent screen



Pola Negri

(Photo: dpa)

was not in the least put out that Germany had just lost the war.

The greatest film of all time was indeed shot in the first weeks after the war's end while the whole of Germany was freezing and starving.

It was entitled *Madame Dubarry*, a fictitious story about the last king of France who was deposed in the French Revolution. Dubarry was his mistress, and she had to die as well.

Another film, entitled *Carmen*, was also shot at this time, again with the same actors. All were very successful.

Lubitsch was regarded as mad when he demanded 250 extras for his film.

No-one was interested in Negri until

scenes totally credible. She almost exploded with passion.

Her partners were again Liedtke and over the world, despite the fact that the Germans were not particularly fond of the wife.

For this reason Lubitsch was described in Paris as coming from Vienna, in New York from Paris, in London as being Swiss.

Negri was tested everywhere as being a Polish star. No-one spoke of the fact that she lived in Berlin.

She had now become an international star. After a few more films with Lubitsch she went to Hollywood.

The reason is not what she has given out: that Hollywood could not do without her. Paramount wanted to get out of the ever-increasing demands made by the studios' superstar Gloria Swanson. Negri would offer competition.

But she did not get on very well in Hollywood. The only success she had was in *Forbidden Paradise*, made with Lubitsch, about the love-stricken Czarina Catherine the Great.

When talkies arrived she could no longer get work — her English was awful and she had never learned the art of playing down the dramatic gestures in her acting.

So she accepted an invitation from Will Forst and returned to Germany. She played in *Alizurka*, a tear-jerker hit with considerable success.

Her other German films were unsuccessful. There was prejudice against her in the USA, where she had considerable difficulties because she had returned to Hitler's Germany.

She never made a comeback although it was rumoured that Billy Wilder had had her in mind for the role of the ageing film star in *Sunset Boulevard*. But ironically he eventually decided on Gloria Swanson.

No-one was interested in Negri until

Continued on page 11

■ EDUCATION

School exchange scheme links Kiel and Kenya



Frankfurter Allgemeine

School pupils from Kiel have been involved in regular exchange visits with Kenyan pupils since 1980 under a state-subsidised private scheme.

The programme is a private initiative between the Gymnasium in the small town of Altenholz (pop: barely 10,000) and the Kenya High School, in Nairobi.

In six years, it has widened to include other schools in Kiel and Hamburg and another high school in Nairobi.

Twenty-six school boys and girls peppered the West German ambassador in Nairobi, Dr Jürgen Diesel, with questions. They wanted to know how a person become an ambassador. Do European ambassadors work together?

How long does a diplomat remain in Nairobi before he is repatriated? Is the embassy large?

They also wanted to know: Do we help Kenya? How much is spent on development aid? What do we buy from Kenya?

A girl wanted to know if the ambassador's wife had to do things for the embassy and whether the ambassador's family were involved in a diplomat's life?

Ambassador Diesel said that the Foreign Ministry got two people for the price of one. A diplomat's wife had to be involved in her husband's work. She could not simply be hostess at dinners and receptions.

She had to take part in important political discussions and give her time to social welfare and women's activities.

The United States, East Germany, Switzerland, and a few other countries paid diplomats' wives. Not Bonn. It takes it for granted that a wife will assist her husband.

Diplomats' wives have a difficult time. They have to run the household in a foreign country, bring up the children and deal with the problems of schooling.

Gerd Eisenack was a medic in the West German navy's sea rescue service. He used to run the Altenholz youth club in his free time. In 1963 he was with the navy in Dar es Salaam, in Tanzania, and in 1964 his ship called at Mombasa. In 1980 he visited Kenya again as a tourist to find out if it would be possible to organise exchange visits between pupils from the Altenholz Gymnasium and Kenya high schools.

Coincidentally in 1980 the Bonn government had sent the first German teacher to a Kenyan school. Eisenack met the teacher, Dullin, and they took it upon themselves to draw up an exchange programme.

In the summer holidays the first group of Kenyan pupils travelled to Altenholz. During the Christmas holidays the first group from Altenholz visited Nairobi.

The Kenyans stay with German families and attend the local German school for a week before the holidays.

The host parents provide bed and board and give their visitors pocket money just like for their own children.

Parents who put up Kenyan pupil

in retirement for two years now, looks after the organisation in Altenholz.

Since the exchange programme began these two alone have arranged meetings. No-one else has had to be brought in.

Being Germany, everything must be in order so Eisenack has established an association in Altenholz for the youth exchange visits, that selects German participants.

It has been possible to purchase articles of real value with contributions and donations from business people. This year the German visitors took with them to Kenya pliers and hammers, shears and axes and other tools valued at a thousand marks.

The pupils from Altenholz and Kiel took some of the delicacies from the North with them: Kiel sprats and soused herrings, sauerkohl, sausages and labkas, a North German specialty of beef hash with egg, herring and beetroot.

The delicacies were brought out at a special dinner when the German visitors had arrived in Kenya — and some Kenyan housewives were certainly given a shock with what they saw. Some asked: "Do Germans eat that?"

The German parents paid for the flight to Kenya, DM1,600 per ticket with Kenya Airways.

The arrangement in reverse is slightly different because many Kenyan families cannot afford to pay.

More than half the pupils at the Kenya High School don't pay because their families cannot afford it. The Starheile Boys School, which sent two boys for the first time this year, is primarily a school for orphans.

Kenyan pupils who cannot raise the money to come to Germany can get a grant. Schleswig-Holstein's Prime Minister, Uwe Barischel, is the patron of Eisenack's association. This state provides DM8,000 annually for the costs of bringing young Kenyans to Germany, and the Bonn Foreign Ministry provides a similar sum in Nairobi.

Fears that, if a precedent was created by providing grants, the scheme would get more and more expensive, have not been realised.

There are now three German-language teachers from the Federal Republic in schools in Nairobi. German is not an obligatory language for Kenyan schoolboys and girls. It is still an exotic language, but it is gaining in importance in trade and industry. It is an important language for tourism.

The education authorities in Kenya are aware of this and they have asked for seven more German-language teachers from Germany.

When the new school year begins this month they will take up posts within the country, according to a spokesman for the Federal Republic embassy in Nairobi.

The first course in training Kenyans to teach German has begun at Nairobi's Kenyatta University, but it will take a few years before graduates are ready to teach German.

Günther Krabbe
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 6 January 1987)

long and Negri was the sole heiress, or at least she inherited between 50 and 100 million dollars, so it was estimated.

She now lives in one of the many palatial homes she has in various parts of Texas, usually so that she does not have to meet and talk to people.

She was for a few years a star and is now a footnote in international film history.

Cur Riess
(Die Welt, Bonn, 3 January 1987)

German staff teach Turkish returnees

Kieler Nachrichten

Seven German teachers have been seconded to the German-language Anatolia Lisesi Gymnasium in Ankara to teach the children of former guest workers who have returned to Turkey from West Germany.

In 1984 about 40,000 Turkish children returned to Turkey with their parents. And since then there have been many more.

Because of the difficulties the returning pupils face, the Turkish government has set up the Anatolia Lisesi schools in Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir so they can be taught in German.

Many of the children were born in Germany. Many are caught between a cultural divide, between the world they know in Germany and the world of their parents. Many speak German as a first language.

The Anatolia Lisesi schools get around the problem of having to downgrade the children, as would happen in a Turkish school.

But even winning a place at one of these German-language elite schools does not eliminate pupils' problems with assimilation into the Turkish education system.

Most of the returning children are from families regarded by the locals as rich. Turkish teachers don't look upon them very sympathetically because of their lack of knowledge about Turkish history and the life and works of the Turkish leader, Atatürk.

Turkish teachers of German are also worried about the respect they except from pupils because some of these boys and girls returning from Germany know the language better than they do.

In May 1986 the two governments drew up a rider to the German-Turkish cultural agreement to help youngsters returning from Germany to Turkey to integrate into the Turkish school system. The agreement proposes that eventually there should be 80 German teachers in state schools in Turkey.

The teachers are employed by the Turkish Education Ministry and are offered a year's contract with a Turkish teacher's salary of about DM270 a month.

The German teachers are given additional financial aid by the Bonn government of between DM3,100 and DM3,500.

In November last year the first seven teachers in this programme were given a five-week briefing course at the foundation for international development aid in Bad Honnef. The curriculum included Turkish, Turkish affairs and German as a foreign language.

The first course was devised to extend the participants' knowledge of the country. All of them knew the country, some through long stays in Turkey, and they could make themselves understood in Turkish.

These teachers can be certain that when they take up their posts in Ankara their presence in the school system will be welcomed on all sides.

Karl Oerber
(Kieler Nachrichten, 6 January 1987)

■ ENVIRONMENT

Tree death tests in topless transparent foil wraps

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

Trees are being tested in controlled climatic conditions in their natural habitat to find out what is killing the forests of Europe.

Open-topped containers of transparent Teflon sheeting are built around trees and the ventilation is controlled.

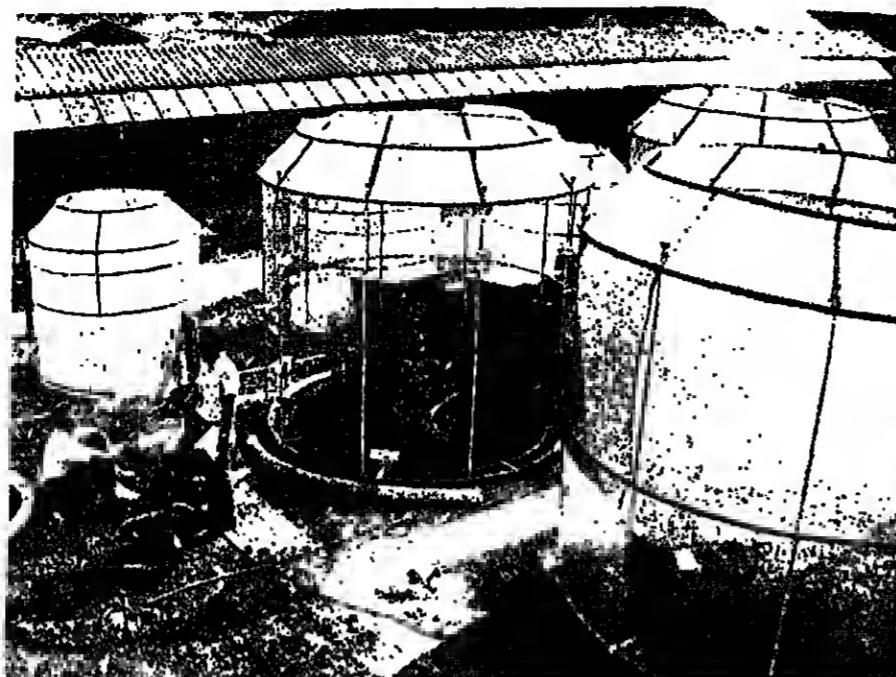
Trees are dying all over the country at a staggering rate. The latest report says that 54 per cent of forest land between the Alps and the North Sea is seriously damaged.

No one really knows why. Man-made pollution is generally regarded by scientists as a main culprit in what is a complex process.

Nitric oxides and sulphur dioxides get a lot of the blame. Nitric oxide comes out of power station chimneys and vehicle exhausts. So does sulphur dioxide, the main ingredient of acid rain.

It is thought that they act in concert with the ozone which exists naturally in the atmosphere. But there is no hard evidence to back this theory.

Neither is there enough evidence to say that a substance applied to a tree under laboratory conditions has the same effect as the same substance on the same tree in a natural environment.



Experimental Teflon foil pollution test tree chamber in the Black Forest

[Photo: dpa]

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100-year-old beech is worth half a million marks

What is a tree worth? The value of its timber, lumberjacks and forest-owners would say. That can range from DM150 for a spruce to over DM30,000 for an oak tree.

A 100-year-old beech tree 25 metres (82ft) tall earns its owner a mere DM270, the equivalent of two to three cubic metres of timber.

Biologists and futurologists go by the economic cost of the work the tree does, such as generating oxygen.

A tree generates 4.6 tonnes of oxygen a year. It also exchanges 6.3 tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

If this were to be done artificially the energy input required would be 19 megawatt-hours. That, plus the tree's work as a water pump and water storage unit, is worth DM315,63 a year.

A beech tree's roots and capillaries extract 30,000 litres of water from the soil.

Its waste, consisting of 55 tonnes of dead leaves and wood, not to mention beehives, is used by millions of organisms.

It is converted into humus by 2,500 worms, for instance. So the tree's value as a horticultural specimen is estimated at DM1,552,63.

The tree's work in extracting dust and toxins from the air we breathe is worth DM1,607,84. It is worth a further DM1,675,64 as a sunshade, umbrella and children's playground.

Centuries ago a mediaeval clergyman with tears in his eyes lost his wooden-framed pince-nez in the choir stalls of a north German nunnery.

He had presumably tired of trying to balance the frames on his nose. At times he could hold the glasses in position but when he needed a free hand to read or write he had to pin the frames firmly into position.

The missing mediaeval pince-nez was

Wolfgang Thielke

(Welt am Sonntag, Hamburg, 3 January 1987)

■ SOCIAL HISTORY

Seven centuries of spectacles on show in Hamburg

DER TAGESPIEGEL

An exhibition on spectacles at the Hamburg Museum of Arts and Crafts is claimed to be the first of its kind.

Wearers of spectacles were once regarded with derision, despite the help they gave.

Pince-nez astride the bridge of the nose tended to make the wearer talk with a nasal twang. Rims dug into the cheeks.

Frames made of metal, horn or fishbone tended to rub and hurt, so they were often covered in fabric. Other varieties, popular until well into the 18th century, had lighter leather rims that stayed in position.

Leather-framed spectacles, wrote Dazu de Vades in Spain in 1623, stayed firmly in place, glued by body heat to the bridge of the nose.

Spectacles and their wearers were not taken seriously until the beginning of this century. They are still inconvenient yet indispensable, useful but a nuisance.

Many wearers push them back into place or readjust their position up to 250 times a day.

In the process they tend to pull faces, involuntarily screwing up faces, furrowing brows, turning up noses and tossing back heads.

The Hamburg exhibition features 400 models, posters, photos, film footage and a multivision show; it presents a cultural history of everyday aesthetics.

The programme was launched three years ago by the Baden-Württemberg Land government. Run from the Karlsruhe nuclear research establishment, it has a DM36m budget.

The European Community is contributing a mere DM2m toward the cost of the programme, but this modest start is at least an indication of the European dimension of tree deaths.

Bernd Schulte

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 3 January 1987)

found in 1953 beneath the floorboards of the choir stalls at Wienhausen.

It was a surprising find. Wooden-framed pince-nez were known neither from illustrations nor from references in writing.

The first glasses worn in pairs certainly date back to the Middle Ages. They are first referred to — in the plural — in Flanders.

In about 1580 pince-nez had a thread or chain attached that could be draped round the ear. Spanish and Italian missionaries took this variety to China with them in the late 16th century.

It proved extremely suitable for and popular with people in the Far East. This design is said in the catalogue to have survived there until the 20th century.

The history of glasses is rich in vagaries and vain attempts to keep them firmly and comfortably in position. In the 16th century glasses were fixed to hats or caps, but not to hair or wigs, which was how the lorgnette came into fashion.

Writing in 1749 Mme Thomin, a French optician, ruing the lorgnette's praises: "We tend to think that ordinary glasses make people look old and enst the wearer in a somewhat ridiculous light, whereas lorgnettes can be worn gracefully."

"Four-eyes" have certainly come in for more than their fair share of ridicule over the centuries. In the representational and performing arts glasses long stood for clumsiness, scholarship, old age and — when worn by the Devil — evil.

They could also create confidence and convey an impression of seriousness and reliability. Advertising posters tend to stress this consumer bonus.

Glasses can be a mask. They can also be a window revealing both eyes and personality.

The exhibition emphasises this point with art photographs from the museum's collection, which will shortly be opened for public access.

This century reluctance to wear glasses has been largely dispelled. They have come into their own as fashion accessories, a stylistic means of underlining the wearer's personality.



Medieval clergymen with pince-nez painted by Konrad von Soest, 1404

(Photo Catalogue)

They are no longer needed to imply that the wearer must be intelligent.

This erstwhile handicap has been splendidly surmounted.

A showcase features curiosities from the history of glasses.

They include a pair with wipers for use in the rain, Eskimo glasses made of whalebone and snowglasses clad in artificial fur.

The owner of a leading Hamburg optician, Ruhmkorff, was killed in an accident last September during preparations for the exhibition.

Ruhmkorff lent the organisers every instrument and the exhibition is dedicated to his memory.

Ursula Bunte

(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 4 January 1987)

Mind the gap — false teeth seen through the ages in Cologne

Bremer Nachrichten

tooth from the pain. Teeth were pulled without an anaesthetic, of course, and if the patient was lucky pain was all he suffered.

At times, with difficult, impacted teeth, jaws were broken. Pliers went by distinctive names such as pincers and screws.

The idea was to pull the tooth by a turn of the screw, but often the tooth was in such poor condition that it snapped and broke.

Anesthetics were introduced in the 19th century, laughing gas being accidentally found suitable by Horace Wells, an American.

Laughing gas parties were held, with party-goers taking gas as a narcotic. Wells had a tooth pulled under the influence and discovered that it didn't hurt.

When he first presented his discovery to a gathering of dentists he used too small a dose, and his patient yelled and ran away, making a fool of him.

Wells is reported to have felt this failure was a challenge. He experimented on himself for so long that he became addicted to laughing gas and committed suicide in 1848.

His pupils Morton and Jackson went on to discover how to use chloroform in dental treatment.

Saint Apollonia is the patron saint of people with dental trouble and, presumably, of the Cologne denture exhibition.

She had all her teeth pulled in Alexandria in 249 AD rather than abjure the faith at a time when Christians were being persecuted.

dpa

(Bremer Nachrichten, 23 December 1986)

■ SOCIETY

Over 50 per cent of Germans workers drink on the job

About five per cent of West Germany's workforce is suffering from alcohol-related illness, according to an official survey. Of every 100 employed Germans, 52 drink at work.

Eleven of those 52 drink on the premises every day; four drink four times a week; 10 drink either once a week or every fortnight; and the remaining 27 drink on certain occasions.

Ten per cent of the workforce is well on the way to becoming ill — that's another 2.5 million. The survey says the army of boozing ill has trebled since 1950.

The problem cuts across class and occupation and seniority: factory workers, office workers, bank workers, civil servants and professionals, managers and cleaners. There are 1.25 million people, who, because of their dependence on alcohol, are 16 times as likely as other workers to take days off, who are ill 2.5 times as often and who are 3.5 times as likely to be involved in an accident at work.

Rita Russlaud, an official of the country's biggest trade union, IG Metall, says:

"If it is accepted that the per head consumption of pure alcohol has increased over 30 years from three litres to 12 litres, then it must be accepted that every year the amount of alcohol consumed at work is also on the increase."

Some occupations have a reputation for being thirsty ones: foundry workers,

glass blowers and cooks work in heat or dust. Journalists and company reps use drink as a social lubricant. He or she who sweats must drink a lot. He or she who mixes with people must drink a lot. Alcoholhol.

A report to the Bundestag suggested that the armed forces are sodden with the stuff. The same with the counter-espionage agency, the Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz (Office for the Protection of the Constitution).

In 1985, its third most senior official,

Hansjoachim Tiede, did a moonlight fit

to East Germany. He was an alcoholic. That became clear from the post mortems after the flight. A Social Democrat member of the Bundestag said Tiede was not the only soak in the organisation. There is talk of another 30 or so...

Some firms (Volkswagen is a notable example) have banned alcohol. But that is no guarantee of anything. The trade union magazine, *Der Gewerkschafter*, shows just what lengths drinking employees will go to get their fix on to the premises: using oranges as schnaps containers; using wine containers to store hip flasks on the body; building dummy second exhaust pipes on cars for storage.

So other firms take a less dogmatic approach. They say total bans are not effective and only annoy the great majority of employees who don't abuse the booze.

Another survey has discovered 180 alcohol rehabilitation programmes in firms and government departments in Hamburg, Bremen, Berlin, Hesse and the Rhineland-Palatinate. Electronics group Bosch is one. Others are Bayer-Leverkusen and BASF (mainly chemicals), Thyssen and Klöckner (steel), Schering (pharmaceuticals) and the company which runs Frankfurt airport.

The workplace doesn't start anyone off on the road to dependency. Those not in danger aren't going to become drinkers at the desk or workbench. But for those who are prone, work is where they can

get their first drink of the day. That can become a habit. Then comes the dependence.

Christian Hedder, a psychologist who works at a Hamburg advice centre handling addicts, says it is not absolutely clear why some people can drink large amounts of alcohol without becoming addicted while others get hooked on small amounts.

He says stress plays a role. When people cannot handle work-related stress, alcohol seems to relieve the pressure. "But it doesn't. It only leads to further problems."

Official statistics say 11 per cent of all workers admit they drink too much at work because of the stress. Factors such as noise, temperature changes, bustle, dampness, for example.

Or the stress can be developed in other ways. One example quoted was that of an electronic data-processing specialist who was sent on a special project with several colleagues to set up a new computer branch. They worked long hours from early in the morning to late at night.

Just to cope, they got into the habit of buying a bottle of cognac to go with their fried chicken in the evenings. Soon, the drinking started before lunch. The project was completed in six months. The worker went back to a normal, 40-hour week, but his drinking habit remained. He eventually lost his job and his marriage nearly went on the rocks.

The economic damage is heavy, not only because of days lost through illness

and accident, but also because of below-performance. Some estimates say the alcoholic is only works at 75 per cent of efficiency — in other words, gets paid 25 per cent too much.

If the arithmetical projection is taken, it would mean that a firm employing 100 earning an average of, say, 30,000 marks a year, would have five workers with alcohol-related illnesses working at 75 per cent efficiency — so more than 37,000 marks would be paid out each year for work that is not done.

The German employers' organisation, *Bundesverband der Deutschen Arbeitgeberverbände*, estimates the national loss at 17 billion marks a year. If the costs of accident and illness is included, the figure would be nearer 50 billion.

The huge electrical and electronics group, Siemens, estimates that its pol-

costs it 60 million marks a year. In 1985 it paid out 11 million marks a year in sick pay for people known to be alcohol dependent.

A Berlin research group studied over one and a half years 5,700 employees in two civil service organisations in Bonn and found that there were 300 active alcoholics, 150 reformed alcoholics and another group of between 500 and 600 in danger from alcohol.

Bosch's scheme to reform the drinker is practised in its 42 works along lines drawn up in discussions between management and the works council. It was recognised that one of the characteristics of the alcoholic is that he or she will not act voluntarily. It is only when disaster threatens and there seems to be no other way out that he allows himself to accept treatment. So the Bosch scheme mixes with pressure and threat.

The employee first has an anonymous talk with a specialist worker at which he is told clearly, that he must take treatment, or get the sack. At this stage, the company administration is not even told. It will not be told, either, if everything goes to plan. But if the offender takes no action, both the company and the works council are notified.

New talks are then held and the offer is renewed with a four-week limit. If the offender still does not improve, a warning is issued and, he gets another four weeks.

If still nothing happens, he is dismissed with the required period of notice. So the entire process for an errant employee can last as much as five months plus the length of notice.

Cases where employees first accept the offer of treatment and then return to their old ways are dealt with on merit, but usually the entire process begins again. Bosch have so far cracked no one under the scheme.

Such plans must necessarily be restricted in their application. Smaller firms cannot afford them. And more than half the firms in the country are small. Only 5 per cent have more than 500 employees.

But 52 per cent of the seven million workers in industry work for the big firms and so are beginning to be covered by rehabilitation schemes.

Perhaps the words of French novelist and author Antoine de Saint-Exupéry describe the situation best. He had one of his characters ask the alcoholic:

"Why do you drink alcohol?"
"Because I'm ashamed."
"Why are you ashamed?"
"Because I drink."

Haus J. Geppert
Deutsche Allgemeine Sonntagsblatt,
Hamburg, 11 January 1987

The project was supported by the Centre for Turkish Studies in Bonn. The report said it was clear that minorities are still rejected. The reason seemed to be entrenched prejudice. The survey discovered there seemed even to ignorance about why foreigners were in the country at all.

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